

VZCZCXRO9964
PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #3550 2150228
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 030228Z AUG 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6100
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 2383
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 4810
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 1425
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 3156
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5981
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8190
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1795
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4256
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 5275
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 003550

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM
(ARF)

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Friday morning papers front-paged the conclusion on Thursday of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) foreign ministerial in the Philippines, with the chairman's statement welcoming the shutdown of North Korean nuclear facilities.

12. "China's Presence at ARF Stands out in Rice's Absence" Manila correspondent Mayumi Otani of the liberal Mainichi reported (8/3): "The presence of China, a major power in East Asia, stood out at the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) foreign ministerial due to Secretary of State Rice's absence for the second time

SIPDIS

in three years. China is pursuing a strategy of deepening ties with ASEAN members, promoting integration in East Asia, and gradually expanding its influence in the region.... The US has postponed a US-ASEAN summit scheduled for September, prompting ASEAN members to conclude that Washington is neglecting ASEAN and that they should seek closer ties with Beijing.... Leaders from the ASEAN+3 framework will meet in Singapore in November to discuss cooperation in East Asia and issue a joint statement, a draft of which says that the meeting will reconfirm that ASEAN+3 will be instrumental in the realization of the long-term goal of creating an East Asian Community, reflecting China's view. China anticipates that should East Asian integration make progress, the members of ASEAN will inevitably move away from the US."

